

April 9, 2009

CHESTER, PA—On April 9, 2009, Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) visited City Team Ministries, in Chester, Pa., to meet with members and staff. The Congressman spoke with Regional Director Richard Williams, Recovery Program Director Rich Briggs, and Family Services Director Quinn Tucker about the government's economic recovery efforts and the vital support the economic stimulus bill provides government and community services.

"In Congress, we are continuing to work hard to repair our financial sector, get the economy moving forward, and lay the foundations for our long term prosperity," said Congressman Sestak. "The effects of the economic stimulus continue to be felt. The Making Work Pay tax cut—which benefits 95% of American working families—is now in full effect and will result in a savings of \$800 for most American families this year. I also supported President Obama's housing plan, which will help keep millions of Americans from losing their homes to foreclosure. And just this week I voted in support of the President's budget, which establishes a strong blueprint for our economic recovery. I strongly support the strategic investments that are the core of this budget—investments in education, energy, and health care that will save jobs now while ensuring our future prosperity and well being."

Among the many provisions in H.R. 1, The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, are included:

\$3.95 billion for job training including State formula grants for adult, dislocated worker, and youth programs (including \$1.2 billion to create up to one million summer jobs for youth). For more information contact: Ed Dowman — ETA Grant Officer, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 215-861-5226, Bowman.Ed@dol.gov or visit <http://www.doleta.gov/grants/>

Community Services Block Grants - \$42.6 million to local community action agencies for services to the growing numbers of low-income families hurt by the economic crisis, such as housing and mortgage counseling, jobs skills training, food pantry assistance, as well as benefits outreach and enrollment. For more information: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/csbq/>

HOME Investment Partnerships: enable state and local government, in partnership with community-based organizations, to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate affordable housing and provide rental assistance to poor families. Total Cost: \$2.25 Billion.

Neighborhood Stabilization: Funding to help local governments and communities purchase and rehabilitate foreclosed, vacant properties in order to create more affordable housing and reduce neighborhood blight. Total Cost: \$2 billion.

Community Development Block Grants: \$1 billion for community and economic development projects including housing and services for those hit hard by tough economic times. That in selecting projects to be funded, recipients shall give priority to projects that can award contracts based on bids within 120 days from the date the funds are made available to the recipients.

Emergency Food and Shelter: \$100 million to help local community organizations provide food, shelter, and support services to the nation's hungry, homeless, and people in economic crisis including one-month utility payments to prevent service cut-off and one-month rent or mortgage assistance to prevent evictions or help people leave shelters. Funds are distributed by formula based on unemployment and poverty rates.

City Team Ministries is a nonprofit, 501 c (3), privately funded, faith-based organization that has been operating in Chester for 20 years. They also operate a homeless shelter for men, some of whom enroll in their Residential Recovery Program, where they are assessed individually based on their educational and recovery needs. Then they enter the recovery program and the Compass Learning Academy. The ultimate goal is to get them their GED's or, get them enrolled in college courses, then after graduation, they get a job through our Career Employment Center. The average time it takes to complete the program is 9 months to 2 years.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security

Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.

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